THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir. The country exploited about 4.3% of its balance of recoverable oil reserves during 1990-91 as against the world average of 2.3%.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e): Oil and gas prodcution is carried out at optiemum level based on techno-economic parameters.

Supply of Transformer oil

2148. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:
SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names and addresses of the organisations manufacturing Transformer oil and the rate fixed for the same;

(b) whether it is a fact that Transformer oil is in short supply with the result that the same is available in the open market at high premium; and

(c) what are the norms and criteria laid down by the companies mentioned in part (a) above for distribution?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLUEM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Establishment of LPG Agencies

2149. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state what are the norms followed for establishing an L.P.G. agency in a Municipal town or Panchayat?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLUEM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): As per present policy new LPG agencies are opened in a phased manner at different locations including municipal towns having a population of 20,000 and above depending upon the economic viability and availability of products etc

Lead Free Petrol

2150. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to inroduce lead free petrol to check pollution from vehicles; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) There is no such decision at present.

(b) Does not arise.

LPG Cylinder Factories

2151. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of PETROELUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG cylinder producing factories in the country, state-wise;

(b) whether work orders were issued to these factories during the last three years;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) A statement is enclosed. (*See* below)

(b) to (d)

Year	No. of manu-facturers on whom work-orders wear placed	No. of orders Placed
1988-89	82	31.99 lakhs
1989-90	76	38.46 lakhs
1990-91	72	36.88 lakhs

Statement

State	No. of Factories
Andhra Pradesh	14
Assam	1
Bihar	1
Delhi (Union Territory)	1
Haryana	5

Himachal Pradesh	4
J & K	1
Karnataka	5
Kerala	1
Madhya Pradesh	7
Maharashtra	6
Orissa	3
Pondicherry (Union Territory)	1
Punjab	2
Rajasthan	5
Tamilnadu	7
Uttar Pradesh	9
West Bengal	4
Gujarat	5
	82

L.P.G. Agencies

2152. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the total number of L.P.G. agencies in the country and also their number in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): As on 1.1.1992 there were 4009 LPG distributorships in the country. The number of LPG agencies in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras is as follows:—

Bombay	131
Delhi	215
Calcutta	110
Madras	97

L.P.G. Agency in Patwadanagar, Nainital

2153. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact tht the residents of the Patwadanagar area in Nainital, Uttar Pradesh have represented for opening of an L.P.G. agency in Patwadanagar; and

(b) if so, by when a L.P.Gas agency is likely to be opened there and at what stage of consideration the representation of the residents lies at present?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Representations are received from time to time for opening of LPG agencies in different places of the country including those in U.P. The Oil Companies on the basis of the market survey, economic viability and product availability include such places in their marketing plans.

Contract regarding off shore Drilling

2154. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be Pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC have given contracts to m/s Jagson International (P) Limited, Delhi, for offshore drilling;

(b) whether it is also a fact that ONGC did not float tenders for the drilling;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not fleating the tenders; and

(d) the progress made by the firm in off-shore drilling?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) ONGC had given contracts to M/s Jagson International for charter hire of a drillship and two jack up rigs.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) On completion of drilling as per the contracts the drillship was dehired in May, 1991 and the, jack up rigs in December, 1991 and January, 1992.

Refused For Supply of Petroleum Products by the Soviet Government

@2155. KUMARI ALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Soviet Government has refused to supply the petroleum products to India in Indian currency;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for their refusal; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to meet the requirement of petroleum products?

@Previously Unstarred Question 767, transferred from the 3rd March, 1992.